

What Is Claimed Is:

1. A method for decreasing space requirements during storage of cut potatoes,

which method comprises:

- 5 a. preparing potatoes to be cut for food use,
- b. cutting said potatoes into rectilinear solids of extended length and
 approximately rectangular cross-section, having two sets of parallel side
 faces, and wherein a first set of parallel side faces has a width of a first
 dimension, and a second set of parallel side faces has a width of a second
 dimension,
- 10 c. arranging said rectilinear solids in close together side-by-side arrays in
 which one set of said parallel side faces of approximately equal dimension
 are substantially aligned,
- d. stacking said rectilinear solids arranged in close together side-by-side
 arrays into repeated orderly layers in which said second set of parallel side
15 faces of approximately equal dimension are substantially aligned to create
 a close stacking assembly,
- e. enclosing said close stacking assembly of rectilinear solids in a suitable
 storage container,

 wherein said close stacking assembly substantially minimizes the storage space
20 required for a unit weight of cut potatoes, and minimizes the exposed cut surfaces
 to minimize any deleterious effects of exposure to air during storage.

2. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of freezing the contents of the container.
3. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of purging any air from the container and filling any interstitial space within said container with an inert gas.
4. A method for preventing breakage during transport of cut potatoes, which method comprises:
 - a. preparing potatoes to be cut for food use,
 - b. cutting said potatoes into rectilinear solids of extended length and approximately rectangular cross-section, having two sets of parallel side faces, and wherein a first set of parallel side faces has a width of a first dimension, and a second set of parallel side faces has a width of a second dimension,
 - c. arranging said rectilinear solids in close together side-by-side arrays in which one set of said parallel side faces of approximately equal dimension are substantially aligned,
 - d. stacking said rectilinear solids arranged in close together side-by-side arrays into repeated orderly layers in which said second set of parallel side faces of approximately equal dimension are substantially aligned to create a close stacking mutual support assembly,
 - e. enclosing said close stacking mutual support assembly of rectilinear solids in a suitable shipping container,

wherein said close stacking assembly permits each rectilinear solid to provide support to each contiguous rectilinear solid and in turn receive support from each contiguous rectilinear solid, substantially minimizing the breakage of said cut potatoes caused by localized stresses during transport.

- 5 5. The method of claim 4 further comprising the step of freezing the contents of the container.
6. The method of claim 4 further comprising the step of purging any air from the container and filling any interstitial space within said container with an inert gas.
7. A method for decreasing space requirements during storage, and preventing breakage during transport, of cut potatoes, which method comprises:
- 10 a. preparing potatoes to be cut for food use,
- 15 b. cutting said potatoes into rectilinear solids of extended length and approximately rectangular cross-section, having two sets of parallel side faces, and wherein a first set of parallel side faces has a width of a first dimension, and a second set of parallel side faces has a width of a second dimension,
- 20 c. arranging said rectilinear solids in close together side-by-side arrays in which one set of said parallel side faces of approximately equal dimension are substantially aligned,
- d. stacking said rectilinear solids arranged in close together side-by-side arrays into repeated orderly layers in which said second set of parallel side faces of approximately equal dimension are substantially aligned to create a close stacking mutual support assembly,

e. enclosing said close stacking mutual support assembly of rectilinear solids
in a suitable container for shipping and storage,

wherein said close stacking assembly substantially minimizes the storage space required
for a unit weight of cut potatoes, and minimizes the exposed cut surfaces to minimize any

5 deleterious effects of exposure to air during storage, and,

wherein said close stacking assembly permits each rectilinear solid to provide support to
each contiguous rectilinear solid and in turn receive support from each contiguous
rectilinear solid, substantially minimizing the breakage of said cut potatoes caused by
shifting movements and localized stresses during transport.

10 8. The method of claim 7 further comprising the step of freezing the contents of the
container.

9. The method of claim 7 further comprising the step of purging any air from the
container and filling any interstitial space within said container with an inert gas.

15 10. An arrangement of cut potatoes for food use wherein said cut potatoes are rectilinear
solids of extended length and have approximately rectangular cross-section with two sets
of parallel side faces, and wherein a first set of parallel side faces has a width of a first
dimension, and a second set of parallel side faces has a width of a second dimension, said
arrangement comprising a close stacking mutual support assembly in which said
20 rectilinear solids are in a plurality of close together side-by-side arrays in which one set
of said parallel side faces of approximately equal dimension are substantially aligned, and
said close together side-by-side arrays are arranged into repeated orderly layers in which
said second set of parallel side faces of approximately equal dimension are substantially
aligned.

11. The arrangement of cut potatoes of claim 10 in which said width of a first dimension and said width of a second dimension are substantially equal.

5 12. The arrangement of cut potatoes of claim 10 in which the potatoes are selected from the group consisting of: white potatoes, redskin potatoes, sweet potatoes and yams.

13. The arrangement of cut potatoes of claim 10 in which the potatoes are fresh.

14. The arrangement of cut potatoes of claim 10 in which the potatoes are frozen.

10 15. The arrangement of cut potatoes of claim 10 in which the potatoes are raw.

16. The arrangement of cut potatoes of claim 10 in which the potatoes are partially cooked.

17. The arrangement of cut potatoes of claim 10 in which the potatoes are cooked.

15 18. The arrangement of cut potatoes of claim 10 in which the arrangement is packaged in a suitable container for shipping and storage.

20 19. The arrangement of cut potatoes of claim 18 in which the package is a plastic bag.

20. The arrangement of cut potatoes of claim 18 in which the package is a carton.

21. The arrangement of cut potatoes of claim 20 in which said carton is lined with plastic.

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